



Berks County Farm Bureau Berks Newsletter

Robin Lincoln, Editor

March Edition 2022

The newsletter is always available online at www.pfb.com/berks

Thanks to those of you who have opted to receive your newsletter electronically. So far, 2% of our members have agreed to stop their paper/snail-mail newsletters. We encourage you to help us move into the 21st century by letting us know that you want electronic only, or that you'd still prefer the paper version.

Please e-mail robinl@ptd.net to let us know your preference: paper vs. email/online.

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CID/Newsletter Editor

Robin Lincoln _____ 484-925-4132

Regional Organization Director

Ethan Howard..... 610 533 2558

State Director District 3

Howard Robinson _____ 717-529-2508

Spring Banquet

Friday, April 1 st, 2022

Check in time is 6:30pm

Entertainment Hawk Mountain Raptors

Hawk Mountain will have an onsite education program providing a hands-on interaction with the raptors!



This amazing event will be held indoors at the Oley Fair Center:
26 Jefferson St, Oley 19547.

Kathryn's Katering: Fruit Cup, Tossed Salad, Roast Beef, BBQ Pork Ribs, Potato Filling, Green Bean Almondine, Corn, and Dessert will all be on the menu.

\$15 a person, kids 10 and under free

Mail your check for \$15 a person (kids 10 and under free) made out to:

BCFB: Mail to: Robin Lincoln

315 S Baumstown Rd, Birdsboro PA 19508

This will secure your reservations. (no tickets)

Reservation Deadline is Thursday, March 24.

We WILL be having A Night at the Reading Phillies:

June 7, 2022 Gates open at 5pm Game at 7pm

You can pick up your free tickets (maximum 6 per member) at the Spring Banquet or mail a self stamped self addressed envelope to:
Bob Tercha 25 Mertz Rd, Mertztown PA 19539

Signs Signs Signs:

“Caution Watch Out for Farm Equipment On The Road”

These free beautiful signs will be available for pickup at our Banquet!

U.S. Wins First USMCA Trade Dispute Over Canada Dairy Restrictions



United State Trade Representative Katherine Tai announced that the United States has prevailed in its first trade dispute settlement under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). A USMCA panel agreed that Canada is breaching its commitments to the agreement by “reserving most of the in-quota quantity in its dairy tariff-rate quotas (TRQs) for the exclusive use of Canadian processors,” according to a statement by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.

“This ruling is a big step for the U.S. dairy sector towards realizing the full benefits of the USMCA and securing real access to the Canadian market for additional high-quality American dairy products such as milk, cheese and skim milk powder,” said U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack. “In order for trade deals to be effective and have the trust of the American people, they must be enforced. Today’s action reflects the Biden-Harris Administration’s deep commitment to enforcing the USMCA and to ensuring that trade rules work for American farmers, ranchers and producers. It also signals to our trading partners that that the United States will stand firm against unjustified trade restrictions and continue fighting on behalf of our farmers and workers to ensure that we have full and fair access to foreign markets.”

Under USMCA rules, Canada has 45 days from the date of the final report to comply with the Panel’s findings. From January through October 2021, the United States exported \$478 million of dairy products to Canada, which is the third largest export destination for U.S. dairy products.



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Berks County Nationwide Agents

Kathy Barry *
Robesonia
610-693-5000

Jeffrey Spotts *
Wyomissing
610-374-2911

Michael Davidheiser
Boyertown
610-367-6095

Tompkins Insurance
Wyomissing
888-601-2611

Brian Hunsinger*
Douglassville
610-582-5204

The Deangelo Company
Wyomissing
484-334-4132

David Koeffler
Reading
610-929-9951

David Wilson
Birdsboro
610-582-9233

James McIntyre*
Morgantown
610-286-6170

William Young
Reading, PA
610-779-8064

** Farm Certified*

MSC Business Services Account Supervisors

David Mory
717-908-0552

Jason Seibert
717-908-6972

Are You Turning 65 This Year and Going on Medicare?



Choosing your Medicare plan can be overwhelming. It can be hard to figure out what you want, or more important, what you need.

Farm Bureau’s experienced and trained staff are ready to help. At no cost to you, we can:

- Answer your questions
- Explain and compare options
- Work within your budget
- Help with informed Medicare coverage decisions

Knowledgeable. Helpful. Dedicated.

To check availability in your county call **800.522.237**.

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (PFB) Delegates Approve New Policies on Solar Energy, Farm Conservation Data

CAMP HILL, Pa. – Pennsylvania Farm Bureau members serving as delegates to the 71st Annual Meeting approved a slate of new policies as part of the grassroots process which guides the organization and addresses emerging challenges in the agriculture industry, including solar energy development on farms, improving farmers access to meat processing, finding ways to deal with damage caused by wildlife and better data collection of on-farm conservation efforts.

Included in the slate of solar energy policies was support for programs that encourage the development of solar energy projects to occur on marginal farm ground and a strong recommendation to avoid the placement of solar facilities on the state’s most productive farmland.

Delegates from the organization’s 54 county Farm Bureaus also supported policy resolutions that will help additional meat processing facilities to open, or expand existing facilities, using state grants and incentives. Farmers also addressed ways to better

address wildlife damages, including the creation of a management assistance program for the state’s elk herd.

In order to better facilitate conservation efforts, delegates also approved policy that recommends that state and federal agencies coordinate when collecting data and reporting on agricultural conservation practices to better capture the efforts that farmers are already implementing in meeting the water quality goals in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

“These policies will guide our efforts in the year ahead, as we begin to navigate new efforts to expand solar energy production in the state and continue to push for recognition of those conservation practices farmers are already implementing on their farms,” said PFB President Rick Ebert. “Our grassroots process is Farm Bureau’s greatest strength and it shows how engaged our members are on conservation efforts and responsibly growing new renewable energy sources.”

Hundreds of farmers from across the state attended Pennsylvania Farm Bureau’s 71st Annual Meeting at the Hershey Lodge from November 15-17, to set policy for the statewide organization on issues affecting farm and rural families.

Find out more about these and other Member Benefits and Services at www.pfb.com.



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Rosetree Consulting provides soil sampling, crop consulting, and government regulatory documents for agricultural operations of all sizes. Our goal is to provide clients with the information and understanding needed to make better decisions and have a more profitable operation. Rosetree Consulting offers a 5% discount on regulatory services (manure management plans, nutrient management plans, conservation plans, odor management plans) to Berks County Farm Bureau members.

Contact Eric Rosenbaum
484-788-7263

Berks County Farm Bureau

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
May 13	Board Meeting		7:00 p.m.
June 10	Board Meeting		7:30 p.m.
July 8	Board Meeting		7:30 p.m.



Interested in receiving the online version of our Newsletter?

So far, 2% of our members have agreed to stop their paper/snail-mail newsletters.

We encourage you to help us move into the 21st century by
letting us know that you want electronic only!

Please e-mail robinl@ptd.net to let us know!



Check out Berks County Farm Bureau website:

www.pfb.com/berks

See more information in the
online version of the newsletter!!